JUNE 27, 1766. THE No 788.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

With the lateſt Advices, Foreign and Domeſtick.

WILLIAMSBURG, *June* 27.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

THE advantages of a free and impartial Preſs, prudently conducted, ſtand confeſſed by all; and your Paper, as a vehicle of intereſting intelligence, may be equally entertaining and uſeful; but I do not think it can be more beneficially employed than in communicating to the publick the ſentiments of individuals upon ſubjects of real importance, eſpecially if they are diſcuſſed with that truth and candour, which ought ever to be the diſtinguiſhing characteriſtick of a Gentleman, carefully diveſting himſelf of every, even the ſmalleſt ingredient of that party heat and acrimony, which is too often the foundation and ſupport of political controverſies. If the publick good, as it ſurely ought to be, is the principal object of all our wiſhes, and if light, juſt as the latent ſpark is excited by a concuſſion of the flint and ſteel, often ariſes from a colliſion of opinions, nothing can be more likely to lead us to truth and a full diſcovery of the intereſt of our country, than a free and candid uſe of thoſe arguments, which may tend to elucidate any momentous queſtion. I have been drawn into this train of thinking by a few late incidents, which I propoſe to make the ſubject of my preſent addreſs to you, and through you, to the publick. Soon after the death of our late Treaſurer, having great reaſon to ſuſpect, as well from the ſuggeſtions of others, as from what had accidentally fallen under my own obſervation, that there had been ſome miſmanagement at our publick Treaſury; reflecting that I myſelf had no inconſiderable ſtake in the country, and, what had ſtill greater weight with me, conſidering myſelf as one of the Repreſentatives of the people, I thought it my duty, even at the expenſe of a ſeat, which I never valued, but from a cordial diſpoſition to ſerve my country, to offer my ſervice as Treaſurer until the end of the next ſeſſion of Aſſembly. The thought was entirely my own, and it is well known that I did not ſolicit the office; my moſt intimate friends and relations were utter ſtrangers to the reſolution I had, taken until after I had waited upon his Honour the Governour, and I can declare with great truth that, at firſt, I was actuated entirely by principles of a publick nature, though I muſt own that I ſoon afterwards by the perſuaſion of my friends was induced to enlarge my views, which I ſuppoſe now, by ſome at leaſt, will be looked upon as altogether ſelfiſh, notwithſtanding the moſt ſolemn aſſeverations I could make to the contrary. When I was formerly a Member of the Houſe of Burgeſſes there ſeemed to me many inconveniences to attend an union of the important offices of Speaker and Treaſurer, and in this opinion I was far from being ſingular; my ſentiments have continued uniformly the ſame ever ſince, though I had no thought or inclination to give the late Gentleman, conſidering the great number of years he had filled both places, the leaſt uneaſineſs upon the occaſion, unleſs impelled to it by the moſt urgent neceſſity. This I am very ſenſible will be thought little to the purpoſe; I only mention it, as ſome kind of evidence, if I can be credited, that I have not lately taken up an opinion merely to ſerve my own intereſt. I own I have wrote to all the Members of the Houſe of Burgeſſes acquainting them of my appointment, though I was far from thinking it decent to aſk Gentlemen, in their ſtations, for their votes at all events, whatever reaſons I might have to think that the moſt earneſt ſolicitations had been uſed by ſome others; but knowing, from experience in other inſtances that many were apt to bind themſelves by promiſes, which from an honeſt, though, in my humble opinion, a miſtaken principle of integrity, when the publick intereſt is at ſtake, they have not been able to break through, I further acknowledge that I took the liberty to mention what I thought an important queſtion, which I ſuppoſed would be agitated in the next Aſſembly, and hinted as an additional inducement to a ſuſpenſion of their opinions that the time appeared to me critical, concluding with an expreſſion of my hopes, that, if they approved my conduct, and ſhould be of opinion that a diſunion of offices ought now to take place, they would be pleaſed to favour me with their countenance and regard. My letters were circular and chiefly of the ſame tenour; thoſe to my particular friends and relations, who are members, might vary a little from the reſt in ſtyle; but I did not, that I can recollect, even to one of theſe, inſinuate the moſt diſtant wiſh that they would pay the ſmalleſt regard to private connexions; no, Sir, I have too exquiſite a pleaſure myſelf in doing what I think is right, to deſire that any other Gentleman ſhould deprive himſelf of the ſame ſatisfaction upon my account. Muſt it not then be thought a little ſtrange by every impartial perſon that this part of my conduct ſhould be cenſured, as I am told it has been, as inſidious and inflammatory? I am not much ſurpriſed at it myſelf, I own, after being informed, that my advertiſement has alſo given offence to ſome. This was penned and ſent to the Printer before I had entered the doors of the Treaſury Office; from a pretty general acquaintance, which I have in moſt parts of the country, I knew that many Gentlemen were uneaſy about our paper money; I had heard the late Treaſurer reflected upon, but was not without hopes that things would turn out much better than ſeemed to be ſuſpected; when I was going to notify my appointment to the publick, I thought that a ſerious aſſurance of my reſolution to do juſtice to the country as well as to the MEMORY OF MY PREDECESSOR, would, on the one hand, be a probable means of quieting the minds of many, and on the other, I hoped it would afford ſome ſatisfaction to the friends of the deceaſed Gentleman. If by this PROFESSION, which was made with the greateſt ſincerity of heart, I have involved myſelf in the ſuſpicion of intending what I really never thought of, I can only ſay that I have been particularly unlucky in the EXPRESSION, and, if it could be given to me back again, I ſhould be extremely glad to have it obliterated. As by my ſeveral letters what I chiefly hoped for at preſent was a ſuſpenſion of Gentlemens opinions, I could not expect nor deſire that they ſhould come to any immediate determinations; but having been favoured with the anſwers of ſeveral, ſome containing the warmeſt and moſt cordial congratulations upon my appointment; others expreſſing ſentiments different from my own, but aſſuring me at the ſame time that the authors of them are open to conviction; others diſapproving altogether of any attempt to ſeparate the offices; and what has really alarmed me not a little, underſtanding, from pretty good authority, that I have been repreſented by ſome as the head, and by others as the tool of a party, both which characters always have been and I hope ever will be equally odious to me, I cannot prevail with myſelf to be ſilent; conſcious, as I really am, of the uprightneſs of my own intentions, and at the ſame time ſolicitous to make every Gentleman acquainted with the genuine motives of my conduct and the true reaſons, which have influenced me in opinion. In proſecuting the plan, which I have propoſed to myſelf for the clearer diſcuſſion of this very important queſtion, I mean whether it will or will not be for the real intereſt of the country to divide the offices of Speaker and Treaſurer, perhaps I may be cenſured by ſome as affecting too great a refinement, but when it is conſidered how very apt the human mind is to be perplexed by a complication of ideas and how likely we are to be led into errours by conſidering things too much in groſs, it ſurely cannot be thought improper, when a variety of objects, intimately connected, preſent themſelves to us, to divide and ſeparate them a little, that we may be able to afford each of them a due degree of attention, and thereby give it its full weight. But before I enter upon the ſubject, I muſt own that ſome difficulties ſtare me in the face; I do not mean from a want of reaſons and arguments to ſupport the opinion I have embraced, at leaſt in my own mind; no, Sir, they are rather of an extrinſick nature; I have to combat with an old cuſtom, which it may, as is too often the caſe, be extremely difficult to get rid of, though, if found inconvenient, it ſurely ought to be aboliſhed according to the old adage *malus uſus abolendus*; I have to ſtruggle with the prejudices of ſome and the warm inclinations of others. I am not the leaſt inclined to caſt the moſt diſtant reflection upon any man, and if any thing like it ſhould be ſuggeſted with reſpect to the conduct of the late Gentleman, let me refer your readers to a future conviction for the truth of what I may have occaſion to mention or hint at. The general reaſon aſſigned by thoſe, who think the offices ought to be diſunited, is that the former union of them has given too much weight and influence to the Chair and that this may again happen if they ſhould continue united; this has been anſwered by as general a negation, which I own ought to prevail, until the firſt aſſertion is fully juſtified, as the author of it has aſſumed the affirmative and no direct proof can be expected from the other quarter. I believe it will be granted that in every ſtate it is neceſſary for the publick weal that as juſt an equilibrium as is poſſible ſhould be preſerved; this obſervation, if I may be allowed to compare ſmall things with great, I think, will hold good from the balance of power in Europe which has always been ſo ſtrenuouſly contended for to the laws and regulations of every little ſenate, in which it highly imports the ſeveral members to uſe their utmoſt care and vigilance to guard againſt an over-prevailing influence of any ſet of men and much more ſo of any one man, leſt the weight of dignity ſhould at any time intrude itſelf into the place of reaſon and juſt argument and bear every thing before it. Whence can be ſuppoſed to have ariſen that beautiful harmony in the Britiſh conſtitution, which is ſo much admired by all and which we endeavour to imitate in moſt inſtances, but from a due attention to theſe circumſtances? It is quite immaterial, in my opinion, how this influence, which I ſpeak of, is brought about, or whether the man poſſeſſed of it deſigns it ſhould operate or not; if it does, the effect is pretty nearly the ſame and equally pernicious to any ſociety, though the perſon, who is ſubject to it, does not perceive its operation, as is often the caſe of many very honeſt men, even while they are under its bias. Whoever attends carefully to the motions, infirmities and prejudices of the human heart muſt be ſatisfied of theſe truths. When I ſpeak of myſelf upon this occaſion in the firſt perſon, I would wiſh to be conſidered in ſome ſort as repreſenting the generality of mankind, allowing at the ſame time ſome exceptions, as ought to be done, whenever we lay down any general rule. If I look up to a man in any eminent ſtation, even ſuppoſing him an utter ſtranger to me, the firſt idea impreſſed upon my mind is that his ſuperiour abilities have placed him there; this will at once prejudice me in his favour and I ſhall be apt to yield to whatever may fall from him, unleſs it carries with it ſome palpable injuſtice or abſurdity; ſuppoſe I know it is in his power to do me any ſignal piece of ſervice; whether he intends it or not, my hopes may flatter me and theſe may awake, perhaps, a too quick ſighted attention to my own intereſt; ſuppoſe him poſſeſſed of any degree of authority over me; this will be too apt to influence my fears in ſome meaſure, and how powerful, if not irreſiſtible the united operation of all theſe will be to the generality of mankind, I think, without derogating too much from the dignity of our nature, may fairly be ſubmitted to the candour and impartiality of every man of ſenſe and diſcernment; and, if this is really the caſe, what muſt be the ſituation of the human mind? Can ſhe be ſaid to remain in that independent, uninfluenced condition, which ſhe ſhould always enjoy to be able to exerciſe with unreſerved freedom thoſe precious faculties, which her Maker has bleſſed her with for the diſcovery of truth? Or can ſhe, thus embarraſſed, if truth is really perceived, with confidence boaſt that ſhe will always have reſolution enough to purſue it? Some men there are, I am perſuaded, the efforts of whoſe noble ſouls will raiſe them above every influence and prejudice; but can we from hence with juſt reaſon conclude that the generality of thoſe, who compoſe ſocieties are of this ſort? I own I doubt myſelf ſo much, that, however pleaſing the reflection might be to me, if I knew it to be well grounded, I dare not venture to rank myſelf in this elevated number. In all ſocieties, inſtituted for tranſacting publick buſineſs, it is neceſſary that ſome one member, eminently diſtinguiſhed for his abilities and integrity, ſhould be placed at the head; the qualifications neceſſary for a Gentleman to be poſſeſſed of to fill the Chair in our Houſe of Burgeſſes with reputation to himſelf and advantage to the country are ſo very ſtriking to me, that I hardly think it neceſſary to recount them for the information of others. The Gentlemen, who are candidates for this office, I own have an equal ſhare of my eſteem, if that can be of any conſequence to them. Poſſeſſed of theſe ſentiments and ſuch a regard for them, I may be aſked and indeed the queſtion has been put to me, why I ſhould attempt an alteration of an ancient mode, which ſome think has been attended with no inconveniences. As I would wiſh to avoid the imputation of having embraced an opinion out of mere wantonneſs; a ſpirit of oppoſition, or, what would ſtill be a baſer motive, ſelf-intereſted views, I will proceed to explain myſelf by giving ſome additional reaſons. When we are conſidering and this ſeems the moſt proper and important criſis for doing ſo in the inſtance I have mentioned, as no Gentleman is to be turned out of office, how far the power of any ſingle man in authority ought to be limited, we ſhould be extremely careful, in my opinion, of not paying too great a regard either to his private or political virtues; if the plan propoſed is only to continue and ceaſe with him, there will be no occaſion, I own, for ſo ſcrupulous an exactneſs; but, if it is to reach to the moſt diſtant period of time, we ought, I think, to enlarge our views and determine according to the extent of proſpect, which we have before us. Compariſons, I know, can ſeldom be made to tally in every circumſtance, but, if the analogy is evident, they may very well anſwer the purpoſe of illuſtration. Suppoſe we lived in a deſpotick government, where a demiſe had lately happened and that the deceaſed Monarch was ſucceeded by a Prince poſſeſſed of all the cardinal virtues; if we had in the former reign diſcovered any inconveniences from too exorbitant a power, which we were now able to alter, without giving any ſhock to government, would it be prudent to forego the favourable opportunity, through a perſuaſion that the new King, from his principles of integrity, would never exceed the bounds of moderation? Let this be conſidered with the caution I have given and I am ſure the anſwer muſt be agreeable to my wiſh. The Speaker of our Houſe of Burgeſſes, from the eminence of his ſtation alone and the privileges, which neceſſarily belong to it, I think muſt be acknowledged, ſuppoſing he never exceeds the line of his duty, to be poſſeſſed of as great a degree of authority and influence as ought to be entruſted with one man in any ſociety whatever; if he ſhould tranſgreſs this boundary, his power will certainly then become exorbitant and extremely inconvenient. The real or ſuppoſed abilities, which this Gentleman may be thought maſter of, will naturally according to a former obſervation, ſecure a great deference to his opinion; his voice is generally ſubmitted to in queſtions relating to the rules of the Houſe; he calls the Members to order and for the more regular and decent conducting of the buſineſs, which may come before the Houſe, he ſhould have weight and authority enough to check the ardour of controverſy and diſputation, which the warmth of ſome tempers may unluckily hurry men into; he ſhould, from the nature of his office, be fully authorized to repreſs every kind of petulance and contumacy; prevent the ſtruggles of competition and ſuppreſs the murmurs of envy and all this with that impartiality and firmneſs of temper, which ought to be eſſential to his character. To him, in order to avoid confuſion and unneceſſary delays, is alſo generally paid the compliment of appointing the ſeveral Committees and their Chairmen; and, though all theſe things are ſubject to the controul of a majority of the Members, [illegible] I believe, few are inclined to diſpute with him who [illegible] generally been confi-

dered as an appendage of this office; in short no other evidence of the Speaker's weight and influence can be necessary, than the court, which is constantly paid to the Chair by those, who are candidates for his countenance and favour. I do not say that every Speaker would endeavour to avail himself of this influence, or that the Members would designedly acquiesce under it, but it is submitted whether what I have mentioned are not the effects of so many natural and at the same time almost imperceptible causes. If then the object of all our desires and inclinations is what it really ought to be, and I would to God that we never were to have any contentions amongst us, except who should be more zealous for the publick good; if this is most likely to be attained by a free and unbiassed exercise of the understanding, I cannot but think that every kind of additional power, which might prompt men to subscribe implicitly to the will or single opinion of any individual must sooner or later prove destructive to any society. The opinions of some Gentlemen in the country that manifest inconveniences have attended the union of these offices, whatever solid reasons they may have to support them either from due reflection or past experience, I know are apt to offend the delicacy of some others, who think themselves accused even of bribery and corruption from the very supposition that the Treasury can possibly give any undue influence to the Chair; but I hope no one will think that I design to insinuate any thing like this; very far from it, I am thoroughly convinced that every Gentleman of the House of Burgesses would shudder at the thoughts of a bribe, and I am as well satisfied that we never had and never shall have a Speaker or Treasurer whose virtue and integrity would not hold in utter abhorrence such base and dishonourable means of establishing an interest. But the influence which is feared, I think may very well be accounted for upon some of the foregoing principles and such other reasons as they will naturally suggest, and this, it is hoped, without giving any reasonable cause of offence, unless one can be justly blameable for endeavouring to guard against the infirmities and frailties of mankind. From the nature of the very high trust reposed in the Treasurer of this colony, his office like all others of equal eminence, must necessarily give him some kind of elevation; this of itself, unconnected with any other post, will naturally draw the attention of many to the man who is honoured with so great a share of the publick confidence; hence will arise one degree of influence. The emoluments, which may be supposed by some fairly and justly to arise from this office to the possessor of it may flatter them that it will one day or other be in his power to serve them or some of their friends; this consideration may create and that almost imperceptibly an inclination to oblige; this, in progress of time, may grow up to a deference, and, at last, end with some in an implicit regard; I say this may be and often is in other instances the result of a persuasion that one man has it in his power to serve another, whether ever he does it or intends it. View the Treasurer on the other hand and mark the influences to which he may be subject; when he considers to whom he is indebted for his preferment, which will be apt to rouse every spark of gratitude in a generous breast, if his favour is solicited by some of these very men or their friends, which will amount almost to the same thing, what is to secure him against an undue compliance, unless he is either blessed with superiour integrity and resolution or is under such restraints as may rouse his fears and deter him from exceeding his duty; if he yields, the obligation on the other hand is greatly increased, and hence will probably arise so riveted a connexion and such a strictness of friendship as in publick matters may at last be found not only to be inconvenient, but extremely pernicious to society. The integrity I speak of, it is greatly to be wished every man was blessed with; but the necessity of human laws in most instances is the strongest evidence that it cannot with safety be relied on. I have hitherto considered ourselves as forming a society and endeavouring to guard against inconveniences, which may happen; could it therefore in concerting such a scheme, even at the first institution, be thought politick to admit such an union of offices, as, if I may be allowed the expression, by a kind of action and reaction, that the one might become almost unbounded in its influence and the other placed almost out of the reach of publick controul? If not; can it be consistent with common prudence to continue, I was going to say, such an unnatural junction, after the inconveniences of it are felt in the most sensible manner? Here perhaps may recur the questions which have been asked me "Whether I would forbid the Treasurer to be a Repre-" sentative" or "Whether if a Member of the House of "Burgesses should be appointed Treasurer he would not "have the same influence which I seem to be alarmed at?" As to the first, I answer that I presume not to forbid or dictate any thing, nor would I desire to limit the inclinations of Gentlemen to promote one of their own Members, when they thought him really deserving; but to suppose that any other Member of the House of Burgesses could ever have the same influence that the Speaker with both offices united in him would necessarily have, is a species of reasoning that I can by no means give into, unless I should first be convinced, upon the principles of common arithmetick, that one is equal to two. I have admitted that the Treasury itself disjoined from the Chair might possibly give some weight to the person in office, though the degree of this could not be very considerable nor attended with any great inconvenience, let the Treasurer's inclinations be what they would, as he must be subject to such a check upon his conduct that he would hardly venture to exceed his duty; if he should ever be hardy enough to do it, he will not have the weight of the Chair to support him, on the contrary, this will always be against him and be one great means of keeping him in awe; besides his fellow members, at least a majority of them would be under no restraint, but would treat him with the freedom he might deserve. Can this be the case of the Speaker and Treasurer united? Is he not the head and which of the members will undertake to keep him to his duty? The whole House, it may be said, can do it; true it may; but the whole House cannot move at once, and how irksome and difficult a task it would be for a single member to rise and tell the Speaker to his face, while he is sitting in the Chair, that his conduct was exceptionable or that he had done the country injustice, I leave to those to determine, who can with reason boast that they are superiour to every influence and free from every kind of bias; some, I believe, would have resolution enough to do this, but if they are few in number compared with the whole, this alone must be a strong proof of the general inconvenience. Give me leave further to remark that, if the late practice should again take place, it is possible that many members may approve the conduct of the Speaker and dislike that of the Treasurer, whilst others may be pleased with the latter and dislike the former, and thus, by a complicated interest, the same man may hold both places, when the greatest part of the Assembly may think him unfit for one, if not both. In short the difference to me is so very striking and there appears so great and manifest an impropriety in a Gentleman's presiding over his own transactions, that I fear I have been tiresome in attempting to prove it. If a private member can be pitched upon as Treasurer, who will publickly avow a set of principles, which every honest man must approve, and which he is resolved to make the rule of his actions, I say, if such a one can be believed, upon the most serious assurances, when he declares that he shall look upon himself as a servant to the publick, whose wages he is to receive and with which he will content himself; that he shall always regard the publick money in his hands as a sacred deposit, never to be touched but by the order of those, who have a right to command it; that, if at any time balances should remain in his hands more than are necessary to defray the immediate current expenses of the country, he shall think it his duty to report them to every Assembly and desire their direction as to the most proper disposition of them for the interest of the country; if it can be thought that this person is master of so much resolution as to pursue the publick good whenever he can see it or have it pointed out to him, the undue influence of such a Treasurer can be but inconsiderable, and, if he should be found deviating from his own principles, he may be easily removed from his office. If it should be said that all this may be true and hold equally with respect to the Speaker and Treasurer united, I desire to remind the reader of the distinctions before made and add this further observation; these two Gentlemen may be supposed equal in point of integrity and equally subject to a deviation from their duty; the one being a single member may easily be displaced with little or no detriment to the publick; the other with great difficulty and perhaps not without giving a shock to the constitution. When I was first honoured with my appointment, I thought it would be prudent to say nothing of the state of the Treasury until the Assembly should meet, not from an inclination to conceal any thing, for I was resolved that there should be no secrets in the office so long as I had any thing to do with it, but because I would not willingly have had it said that I intended to inflame the country or turn any circumstance to my private advantage; but finding that many people were apprized of things, which I was a stranger to until very lately, some supposing, and this I declare without any information from me, that the deficiency of the publick money was from forty to a hundred thousand pounds, I thought my silence would be of little use and therefore, when any questions have been asked me, I have given the best account of the matter I was able; indeed it is not in my power, even at this time, to say what the exact deficiency is, as the accounts are still unsettled; but suppose it should be no more than eighty or ninety thousand pounds, can any man pretend to foretel what effect this will have upon the credit of the country? This could not have happened at once, but must have been a growing evil of many years standing. How could it have taken such deep root, but from too implicit a confidence, which had, through a considerable tract of time, imperceptibly wrought itself into the minds of a set of Gentlemen whose own integrity, as is often the case, kept them above every suspicion? Call this influence, or by what other less offensive name you please; let it be ascribed to a peculiar goodness of heart, universal benevolence or whatever other cause, the dismal consequences to the country are the same. The seeming mysteries of our exchange begin now to unfold themselves; the most attentive to the rise and fall of this commodity, for so I must call it, could not account for its continuing at so exorbitant a pitch as prevailed for several years in this country; they knew very well that money is more or less valuable according to the quantity in circulation; they knew that the quantity of our paper money ought to have been considerably diminished every year and that of course exchange ought to have fallen; how great then must have been their surprise to find it fluctuating from court to court between sixty and sixty five per cent. without any apparent good reason, nay contrary to reason from what they could have supposed the state of our currency? But now it comes out that great part of the money, squeezed from the people for their taxes, instead of being sunk at our Treasury as it ought to have been, was thrown back into circulation. This is not the only bad effect; the publick faith being pawned for the redemption of our treasury notes, the country is a debtor to every man possessed of them, according to their respective values; but how is this money to be redeemed? Must it depend upon the sums, which may be received of the late Treasurer's debtors and his securities? Or must there be a new tax laid upon the people to support the credit of the country? Of the money, which was redeemable in March 1765, there is at this time upwards of fifty thousand pounds in circulation; there is pretty near the same sum in circulation of the notes, which are redeemable next September, and not four thousand pounds in the Treasury; would any man of less weight and influence than the Speaker and Treasurer have ventured to take such liberties? These circumstances as well as some others explain to me the reasons of the violent oppositions from first to last made to the appointment of burning committees; they explain some other things likewise, which were extremely mysterious to me at the time they happened. It has been a custom, and surely a very good one, to settle the former Treasurer's accounts previous to the appointment of a new Treasurer; if these things should appear, and perhaps some others may of equal importance, what will be thought of us, if we pursue the old method of uniting places, to which is ascribed the very misfortune complained of. It is said the Assembly will be more strict in examining the Treasurer's accounts for the future; I hope and dare say they will, but if there is any weight in the observations I have made, the future union of the two places may lay a probable foundation for many other mischiefs equally pernicious; I speak upon general principles without any particular allusion to this or that man; what has happened may happen again and like causes may produce like effects. Besides, whatever may be our opinions of the present set of Gentlemen, we cannot foresee who will be their successours; this we are sure of, that time is too apt to efface the remembrance of what has happened at a considerable distance from us. Some Gentlemen seem apprehensive that, if the offices should be disunited, it will be a likely means of placing the Treasury out of the controul of the House of Burgesses; this would be really alarming to me, if I thought there was any danger of the sort; but I am so far of a contrary opinion, that I think nothing will be more apt to produce this effect than a future junction of them. The appointing a Gentleman Treasurer so long as he continues Speaker of the House of Burgesses and thence to the end of the next session of Assembly, indeed fixes the Treasury in the House of Burgesses and limits the continuance of the office in a particular person to a prescribed period; but surely this may as well be done by naming any other member and the power of appointment, at the same time, be as effectually reserved to the General Assembly and the Treasurer kept equally dependent upon them alone. I am not at all disposed to give up, nor would I abate one single scruple of our just rights and privileges; but we know that we have political as well as commercial connexions with our Mother Country, which the warmest patriot amongst us does not pretend to question. Our Governour, as the King's Representative here, has a negative upon all our acts, and though they obtain his assent, his Majesty may repeal them; should such assent to the Treasurer's bill ever be refused, or should the law appointing him ever be repealed, what will remain for us to do? We might indeed let the laws expire from whence our publick revenues arise; but would not this injure ourselves most? Government must be supported and this cannot be done without a competent revenue; there is a perpetual one established in this country for such departments as immediately concern the Crown. If I know myself, I think I should always have resolution enough to carry me any prudent, justifiable length to support every measure, which has the appearance of publick interest connected with it; but at the same time I own I should wish to avoid every kind of dispute, which may have a dangerous tendency. I do not mention these things with the least design of paying my court to Gentlemen in authority; very far from it; I only do it as a friendly warning to my countrymen. We have long had reason to believe that the attention of the great men in England has been fixed upon all the Assemblies on this continent, and it is publickly known that a separation of the offices I am speaking of was several years ago recommended as a very necessary and useful alteration of that part of our constitution; who first started the objection in England is very immaterial to us, as it ought and probably will stand or fall by its own weight. It may very well be remembered what an alarm was taken some years ago at the repeated emissions of our paper currency; I always thought that the objection, if so necessary, though to us so very disagreeable an expedient had been really exceptionable, would have come with a greater show of reason from another quarter than from the merchants in London, whose debts were chiefly due in sterling money and very properly secured to them by our laws; I could not but impute their uneasiness to the want of a thorough knowledge of the principles, upon which our currency was established; be this as it might, they, possessed of such an opinion whether taken upon good or bad reasons, showed us their influence with the Board of Trade and Plantations and we were, I believe most of us, apprehensive that the country would have been thrown into the greatest confusion; the late agreeable conduct of these Gentlemen joined to this, but considered on the other hand, I think can leave us no room to doubt of their weight with those in authority, and that they have at least some power to influence them in our favour or to our prejudice; our Assembly being convened, in consequence of an express injunction to his Honour the Governour, resolved immediately to explain the uprightness of their intentions by convincing the merchants and the whole world that they had shown a proper regard to their interest in all their emissions of paper money by establishing the most ample funds for the redemption of it; they accordingly appointed a committee to examine into the state of the treasury notes and the taxes imposed for sinking them; by the report of this committee it appeared that the taxes exceeded the emissions eleven thousand, four hundred and fifty two pounds, four shillings and seven pence; this was the strongest evidence that our publick faith had been sufficiently guarded, and I believe this candid and fair proceeding of our Assembly joined with an additional assurance that if any of the funds should fail they would make them good, satisfied the Gentlemen in England so fully that they contented themselves with an act of Parliament to prevent any such emissions for the future, that they and we might not be subject to what they thought an inconvenience in having too great a quantity of this sort of money in circulation amongst us at one time. It is hardly worth our while to question the propriety of this act, since, from a change of measures in England, we have the greatest reason to hope that our friends there have much better things in store for us. If then our conduct was justified in the manner I have mentioned and the good intentions of our Assembly to support the credit of our currency have been in a great measure defeated by a strange kind of misconduct, and this generally ascribed to such causes as it really is by many even amongst ourselves; what will be thought of us if we do not make some material alterations? Will it not with too much reason, both at home and abroad, let our opinions and intentions be what they will, be thought that by continuing our business in the usual channel, we are contented that things should go on in the old way? And what a severe stroke this will probably prove to our publick credit, I leave to others to determine; the reflection, I own, to me is truly alarming, as the consequences are equally glaring as the sun in his meridian. But some have asked what is to become of the Speaker? Can it be expected that the dignity of the Chair and the independency of the Gentleman, who fills it, is to be supported out of a private purse? I answer, for myself, by no means. As much as our load of taxes is complained of, I hope we are not in such desperate circumstances, as not to be able to support an office so absolutely necessay for the publick good; indeed I cannot help thinking it extremely improper to encumber a Gentleman in his station, who ought to devote his whole time and

ſtudies to the intereſt of his country, with any other ſort of buſineſs, unleſs we would content ourſelves with a nominal Treaſurer and leave the buſineſs of the Treaſury to a clerk. The Chair in my opinion may be very decently ſupported, without the expenſe of it being ſenſibly felt by the people. Whatever allowance may be thought of within reaſon, I own I ſhall deem a pittance to the whole country, when compared with the inconveniences, which would attend a continued union of the offices and the advantages which would redound to the publick from a ſeparation of them. Were my own thoughts upon this ſubject quite the reverſe of what they really are, I have great reaſon to believe that a conſiderable majority of thoſe, who lately were and I believe will ſoon again be my conſtituents, would urge me in the moſt earneſt manner to endeavour to bring about a diſunion of the offices. I have no itch for writing and leſs inclination to appear in print; it would therefore have afforded me great pleaſure, if ſome more maſterly hand had undertaken this ſubject; I have waited, though in vain, ſome weeks in expectation of it. I repeat again, that what I have written is not with the leaſt deſign to reflect upon or give umbrage to any one; it poſſibly may prejudice me with ſome as to what may be thought my private views, but I cannot help it. The poſt, which I have the honour to be in at preſent, I regard, indeed, as a genteel appointment and the emolument of it may be convenient to one with a very growing family; but the juſtice, which is due to the country, ſeems to require, upon many accounts, that ſome man ſhould ſpeak out and acquaint her with her real ſituation, which I am reſolved to do unleſs agreeably prevented by ſome others ſo long as I have a tongue to ſpeak or fingers to write. Whether I ſhall be continued in the office muſt depend upon the pleaſure of the General Aſſembly; but whether in or out of place, theſe are my preſent governing ſentiments; though, in my turn profeſſing myſelf open to conviction, I ſhall be ready to relinquiſh them, if any Gentleman will convince me that I am in an errour, I therefore conclude with good old Horace's invitation

——Si quid noviſti rectius iſtis,
Candidus imperti; ſi non, his utere mecum.

and am, Sir,

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

RO. C. NICHOLAS.

We have advice from Barbados of the death of John Ambler, Eſq; Repreſentative in Aſſembly for Jameſtown, and Collector of the diſtrict of York river. He has for ſome time paſt been in a bad ſtate of health, and lately went to that iſland for the recovery of it.

On Tueſday laſt James Taylor, Eſq; was choſen Mayor for the borough of Norfolk.

☞ We acknowledge the receipt of a piece ſigned "An Unbiaſſed Virginian," as well as of "The Gentleman's Averſion, a Riddle," which ſhall have a place in our next.

Advertiſements.

JORDAN's, JUNE 20, 1766.

BEING informed it was reported at the laſt court of *Oyer* and *Terminer*, where an indiſpoſition prevented my attendance, that I had declined ſtanding for the Speaker's chair at the next Aſſembly, I hope my friends will excuſe my taking this method to contradict that report, as I am unable to wait on them in perſon: I have never entertained a thought of giving up my preſent attempt, ſince I firſt offered myſelf a candidate. I acknowledge it to be my opinion that the Treaſury ought to be put upon a new eſtabliſhment, and not united to the chair, as it has been heretofore: This opinion I have frequently declared, and from hence perhaps it may be that this report has taken its riſe, for I am unwilling to believe any Gentleman would propagate it on purpoſe to do me an injury; but as it is entirely groundleſs, I hope the Gentlemen of the Houſe of Burgeſſes will give no credit to it, and that I ſhall receive their favours at the next election of a Speaker, which will lay a laſting obligation on me.

RICHARD BLAND.

STAFFORD, JUNE 16, 1766.

IMPORTED laſt ſummer in the *Talbot*, Captain *John M'Laurin*, a caſe and bundle marked I M, No. 1. 2. containing a piece of ſheeting, and 60 corn bags marked I M, and numbered 1 to 60. I have not yet been able to diſcover where they were landed. The ſhip called at *Urbanna* to unliver ſome goods, and proceeded to *Maryland* to load there. I ſhall be much obliged to any perſon who can give me any information of them.

JOHN MERCER.

To be SOLD, *at* NORFOLK,

A SHIP on the STOCKS, of the following dimenſions, viz. Sixty three feet keel, twenty three feet beam, nine feet eight inches hold, and four feet four inches between decks; together with the rigging, ſails, cables, anchors, &c. provided for her. She will be completely finiſhed, and ready to launch by the 20th of next month. For terms apply to the ſubſcriber, who will ſhow the ſhip and materials.

4‖ THOMAS M'CULLOCH.

JUNE 25, 1766.

JUNE 19, 1766.

THAT the friends of *James Gildart*, Eſq; of *Liverpool*, may not be diſappointed, the ſhip ROGERS, commanded by *James Wignell*, which unfortunately run aſhore three days ago near *Cape Charles*, by the friendly aſſiſtance of *Jermyn Morgan*, Eſq; his officers and men, is expected to be got off. The Gentlemen ſhippers, therefore, are requeſted to keep their tobacco; as the ſhip will be hove down with the utmoſt deſpatch, and this month it is expected will wait upon the friends of Mr. *Gildart* in *Rappahannock* river, ſtaunch and tight.

JUNE 21, 1766.

JUST arrived in *James* river, from *Africa*, the ſhip *Apollo*, Capt. *Elias Glover*, with about two hundred choice healthy *Windward* and *Gold Coaſt* ſlaves; the ſale of which will begin at *Bermuda Hundred* on *Monday* the 7th of *July* next, and continue until all are ſold.

THOMAS TABB.
WILLIAM BOLDEN.
JOHN LAWRENCE.

WHEREAS *William Cole* the elder, by his laſt will and teſtament, deviſed ſeveral ſpecifick and pecuniary legacies to his youngeſt children, and then bequeathed all the reſt and reſidue of his eſtate to his eldeſt ſon *William Cole*, on condition he would pay and ſatisfy the ſaid pecuniary legacies, which has not been done; and the ſaid eſtate, conſiſting in ſlaves, which the ſaid *William Cole* now has in poſſeſſion: This is therefore to give notice to all to whom it may concern, that they may not purchaſe or take a mortgage of the ſaid ſlaves, as the ſaid *Cole* has no other right to them than by complying with the condition aforementioned, and until that be done the guardians of the younger children, together with the executors of the ſaid *William Cole* the elder, will diſpute the validity of any ſale, or other encumbrance, the ſaid ſlaves may be laid under by the ſaid *William Cole* the younger.

JOHN MINGE.
PHIL. EDMONDSON.
WILLIAM ACRILL.

To be SOLD, *and entered on this fall*,

A TRACT of LAND and PLANTATION, containing 700 acres, lying on both ſides of *Cat Tail* creek, in *Dinwiddie* county, about 13 miles from *Peterſburg*, with all neceſſary houſes for cropping, and freſh ground, both for corn and tobacco, cleared to work 8 hands. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe may treat for the ſame with the ſubſcriber, on the premiſes.

9 HAMLIN EPES.

LOST at *Hog Iſland* ferry, ſuppoſed to be ſtolen, a man's *Engliſh* hunting ſaddle, with narrow boſſes and ſtaples both before and behind, a light cloth houſing fringed, together with a new ſnaffle bridle, and coat ſtraps. Whoever will convey the ſaid ſaddle and appurtenances to me at *Hog Iſland*, or to Mr. *Luke Sumner* in *Nanſemond* county, ſhall be handſomely rewarded, and no queſtions aſked. 2‖ ELIZABETH HOLT.

KING WILLIAM, JUNE 27, 1766.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, on *Saturday* the 21ſt of this month, a Negro man ſlave named POPE; he formerly waited on Mr. *Jerman Baker*, and afterwards on Mr. *James Clark*, who ſold him to me. He is a likely fellow, of a very dark complexion, about 5 feet 5 inches high, and had on when he went away a pair of old blue breeches, and a ſhort brown linen jacket; I do not know whether he carried any other clothes with him or not. I am apprehenſive he will attempt to make his eſcape out of the colony in ſome veſſel, therefore all maſters are deſired to take notice of the ſame. I will give a reward of five pounds to any perſon that will ſecure the ſaid fellow, ſo that I may get him again, in *King William* county; if out of the colony, to be paid in proportion to the trouble.

Tf ROGER GREGORY.

STRAYED or ſtolen from *Rhodes*'s ordinary, in *James City*, a middle ſized white horſe, with a hanging mane and ſwitch tail, one of his fore legs has been cut very much with a rope, which cauſes the hair to ſtand the wrong way, but no brand perceivable. Whoever contrives the ſaid horſe to me ſhall have 10s. reward.

2 SARAH DYER.

TAKEN up by the ſubſcriber, near *Williamſburg*, a dark bay horſe, about 13 hands and a half high, and branded on the near buttock with a dot; poſted, and appraiſed to 8 l. The owner may have him of me, paying the charge of this advertiſement.

FREDERICK BRYAN.

N. B. The above horſe was formerly the property of Capt. *Robert B. Armiſtead*.

TAKEN up, in *Dinwiddie*, a bay roan horſe, about 4 feet 4 inches high, with a ſmall ſtar in his forehead, and branded on the near buttock with a fleſhfork; alſo a black filly, with a blaze in her face, and branded on the near buttock C; poſted, and appraiſed to 3 l. each.

‖ JAMES WALKER.

TAKEN up, in *Auguſta*, a bay mare, about 11 years old, about 13 hands high, with gray hairs all over her body, has a wall eye, her hind feet white, and trots; alſo a bay colt, that ſucks the ſaid mare, about 12 hands high, paces naturally, and has a ſmall ſtar; poſted and appraiſed, the mare to 4 l. 10 s. and the colt to 3 l.

‖ JOHN ANDERSON.

For BRISTOL,

THE ſhip RIALTO,

DAVID MERIWETHER maſter, now lying at *Danſie*'s wharf; one half of her lading being engaged, and as ſhe is under charter, ſhe will ſail in *Auguſt* at furtheſt. For freight, or paſſage, apply to Mr. *Thomas Thomas* or Mr. *George Thomas* in *Hanover*, or to the ſaid maſter.

Mecklenburg county, ſc.

GEORGE III. by the grace of God, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, defender of the faith, &c. To the ſheriff of *Mecklenburg* county, greeting: We command you that you ſummon *John Clarke* to appear before our Juſtices of our ſaid county court in chancery, at the court-houſe, on the ſecond *Monday* in *October* next, to anſwer a bill in chancery exhibited againſt him by *John Pankey*, merchant; and this he ſhall in no wiſe omit, under the penalty of 100 l. and have then there this writ. Witneſs *John Tabb*, clerk of our ſaid court, the 13th day of *September*, in the 5th year of our reign.

2‖ JOHN TABB.

Scheme of a Lottery

FOR diſpoſing of 146 lots of LAND, in the town of *Hanover*, yet remaining unſold.—The leaſt valuable of the lots, according to the prices of thoſe moſt remote from the water, which have been ſold, not being leſs than 20 l. which is far below a medium between that ſum and what was given for ſeveral near the water, the unſold lots are rated at 30 l. each, accounting 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, on which *Page*'s warehouſes ſtand, one lot; and 24, 35, 36, 47, 48, 49, on which *Crutchfield*'s warehouſes ſtand, one other lot only, ſo that there will be but 135 lots in the whole to be drawn for; and it is propoſed that there ſhall be no more than that number of chances, and conſequently no blanks. The conſideration money will not be required of Gentlemen willing to become adventurers, and ſubſcribing to the ſcheme, until *April* next; when it is to be paid to the proprietor at *Williamſburg*, either in caſh, or 3000 wt. of tobacco. The drawing will be ſoon after the ſubſcription ſhall be completed, of which notice ſhall be given in the *Virginia* Gazette. *Robert Carter Nicholas*, *George Wythe*, *Thomas Everard*, *John Thompſon*, and *Jerman Baker*, Eſquires, will be managers of the lottery, or any three of them. Tf MANN PAGE.

On Tueſday *the* 15*th of* July *will be ſold at the late dwelling-houſe of Mr.* THOMAS READ ROOTES, *deceaſed, in* King *and* Queen *county*,

THE houſe and land, with 100 acres of marſh oppoſite to the houſe, in *King William* county; alſo all the houſehold goods, kitchen furniture, plate, and ſome ſtore goods, ſtocks, two flats, a ſingle and double chair, &c. And on the 4th *Thurſday* of the ſame month will be ſold, at the *Rocky Ridge*, about 40 choice SLAVES, chiefly *Virginia* born, among which are two good carpenters, a cook, and ſeveral houſe ſervants. Credit will be allowed for one half of the money until the 25th of *October* next, and for the remainder until the 25th of *April* following, the purchaſers giving bond and good ſecurity to the executors of *Thomas Read Rootes*, and the adminiſtrators of *John Robinſon*, Eſq; deceaſed. 4

To be SOLD,

Three hundred acres of well timbered level LAND, in CAROLINE county, about three miles from *Mantabick* church, and on the main road. Likewiſe about 200 l. ſterling value of *European* and *India* GOODS. For terms apply to

DUNCAN GRAHAM.

To be SOLD *at* Tappahannock, *for the benefit of the underwriters, on* Saturday *the* 28*th of this month*,

A PARCEL of damaged *Iriſh* LINENS, and white and brown SHEETINGS, imported in the HENRY, Capt. PARRY, from *Liverpool*.

2‖ ARCHIBALD RITCHIE.

To be SOLD *at publick ſale, on* Wedneſday *the* 30*th of* July *next, at* Flower de Hundred, *in* Prince George *county*,

THE eſtate of Mr. JOHN HOOD, late of ſaid county, deceaſed, conſiſting of LAND, SLAVES, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, and a valuable library of inſtructing and entertaining BOOKS, of the beſt editions, and in good caſe. There are on *James* river, between *Flower de Hundred* and *Ward*'s creek, 209 acres, with valuable improvements, well accommodated for a merchant, which being the place on which Mr. *Hood* lived, and well known to moſt trading Gentlemen in the colony, needs no particular deſcription; 75 acres, about a mile diſtant from the former, with a dwelling-houſe, kitchen, and ſhop; 400 acres, about 8 miles from *Flower de Hundred*, and is well timbered with white oak and pine; and 400 acres on *Hatcher*'s run, in *Dinwiddie* county. The ſlaves are two men, three women, two girls, and a boy. Six months credit will be allowed the purchaſers, on giving bond and ſecurity.——The following books were lent by Mr. *Hood*, *viz.* Sir Charles Grandiſon, 7 vols. Smollett's Hiſtory of England, 4 vols. 4to. The Lives of the Roman Empreſſes. Mollier's Plays, French and Engliſh. It is requeſted that the Gentlemen who borrowed theſe books will contrive them before the day of ſale to Mr. *James Belſches*, merchant, near *Cabin Point*, or to the ſubſcriber in *Suſſex* county.

WILLIAM WILLIE.

Thoſe who have any demands upon the eſtate are deſired to let them be known to me, or the above named Mr. *Belſches*; and thoſe who are indebted will it is hoped be pleaſed to pay, without further notice.

COMMITTED to the publick gaol in *Williamſburg*, a Negro fellow named JAMES, 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, about 40 years old, has on a blue coat with metal buttons, cotton waiſtcoat, light cloth breeches, has five gaſhes of his country mark on each cheek, ſays that he was ſold about ſix years ago by Col. HUNTER, late of *Hampton*, to *David Sallen*, waterman, and came laſt from *Philadelphia*. The owner may have him, on paying charges, of

EDWARD WESTMORE, K. P. G.

TAKEN up, in *Dinwiddie*, a gray horſe, about 4 feet 9 inches high, and branded on the near buttock S; poſted, and appraiſed to 10 l.

2‖ JOHN JACKSON.

TAKEN up, in *Charles City*, a bay mare, two years old, paces naturally, but neither dockt nor branded; poſted, and appraiſed to 3 l.

‖ BRAZURE WILLIAMS.

TAKEN up, in *Cumberland*, a black cow, marked with a crop and ſlit in each ear; alſo a red yearling, marked with an under-keel in the right ear, and crop in the left; poſted, and appraiſed to 40s.

WILLIAM SMITH.

NOTICE is hereby given that the cauſes on the Council docket now depending will be proceeded on, the day immediately following the Court of *Oyer* and *Terminer* in *December* next; and that the caveats, wherein a new ſummons was ordered in *June* 1765, and ſhall not be taken out before that time, will be diſmiſſed.

By command of the Governour and Council.

N. WALTHOE, Cl. Con.

THE ſheriffs who have failed to account with the Auditor, and pay the quit-rents due to his Majeſty for the year 1765, and alſo the arrears of former years, are deſired to do it, without loſs of time; as I am obliged, by my inſtructions, to enforce the utmoſt punctuality.

RICHARD CORBIN, D. R. G.

VIRGINIA, JUNE 7, 1766.

LEST any perſons inclined to purchaſe the lands and works on *Occoquan* river, in *Prince William* county, late the property of Mr. *John Ballendine*, but now in the tenure of Mr. *John Semple*, may be deceived in the title, and to prevent any pretence of ignorance of our right and claim thereto, we are induced to adviſe the publick that there is now of record in the Secretary's Office of this colony articles of agreement made between the ſaid *John Ballendine* and us, for the conveyance of the ſaid lands and works, which we were forthwith put in poſſeſſion of: That the ſaid *Semple* knowing of the ſaid articles, and their contents, and of our poſſeſſion, afterwards purchaſed the ſame of *Ballendine*, and became poſſeſſed thereof. In conſequence of the articles before mentiond, we have advanced conſiderable ſums of money, being part of the conſideration, and are willing to comply with every tittle of our engagements. We have further to adviſe, that the ſaid *Ballendine* executed a deed for the conveyance of the ſaid lands and works to Mr. *James Douglaſs*, previous to any ſale to us, or *Semple*, with a condition mentioned in the ſame; which condition not being complied with by the ſaid *Ballendine*, the ſaid *James Douglaſs*, on the 2d day of *May*, 1766, conveyed and aſſigned over to us the fee ſimple in the premiſes, and the deed aforeſaid, for a valuable conſideration; which deeds are of record now in the county court of *Prince William* aforeſaid. If any will purchaſe of the ſaid *Semple* after this notice, they will do it with their eyes open, and muſt ſtand to the conſequences, as we are determined to aſſert our rights.

JOHN TAYLOE.
PRESLY THORNTON.

My ENGLISH HORSE

SILVER EYE,

NOW in high perfection, covers MARES at my houſe in *Henrico* county for TWENTY SHILLINGS a leap, FORTY SHILLINGS the ſeaſon, and THREE POUNDS to enſure a colt, as he is very remarkable for getting colts at few covers. I have 100 acres of land for the mares to run upon, which affords abundance of fine graſs.

Alſo to be ſold at *Rocket's* landing, about a mile below the falls of *James* river, any quantity of COAL, for 12d. a buſhel, not inferiour to the *Newcaſtle* coal, and where a veſſel of 120 tuns burthen may load.

SAMUEL DU VAL.

PETERSBURG, JUNE 10, 1766.

I INTEND for *Scotland* ſoon after the court of *Oyer* and *Terminer*.

GEORGE YOUNGER.

Juſt imported in the FAUQUIER, *Capt.* NECKS, *and to be ſold by the ſubſcribers, at their ſtore in* Norfolk,

A VERY large aſſortment of EUROPEAN and EAST INDIA *GOODS*, ſuitable for the ſeaſon.

BALFOUR & BARRAUD.

N. B. They have a neat CHARIOT, and HARNESS for four horſes, for ſale.

THE ſhip FANNY, *Thomas Mounſey* maſter, about 250 hhds. burthen, a new veſſel, now lying at *Norfolk*, is to be let on charter to any part, on very reaſonable terms. Apply to

BOLDEN, LAWRENCE, & Co

ONE or two journeymen CABINET MAKERS, who are ſober and induſtrious, and underſtand their buſineſs well, will meet with good encouragement by applying to the ſubſcriber in *Blandford*.

THOMAS ARBUTHNOT.

THE ſhip CHARMING SALLY, WILLIAM ROBINSON maſter, a new ſhip, *Britiſh* built, burthen 400 tuns, lying at *Boyd's Hole*, *Potowmack* river, will take in tobacco for *London*, on liberty of conſignment; at 7l. ſterling a tun. Thoſe who incline ſhipping will pleaſe be expeditious in ſending their orders to the Captain on board, who will attend all convenient courts, to Mr. *James Mills*, Mr. *James Hunter*, or to me, at *Fredericksburg*.

ADAM HUNTER.

To be LET *for a term of years, and entered upon the 1ſt of* September, October, *or* November *next, or* SOLD,

TWO LOTS in the town of HANOVER, at *Page's* warehouſes, with all neceſſary buildings thereon. For terms inquire of

CHARLES GOODALL.

N. B. All perſons indebted to me for ſtore or ordinary accounts are deſired to ſettle, and pay off their accounts and bonds, or they will be ſued immediately.

C. G.

To be SOLD,

FOUR LOTS, adjoining *Newcaſtle*, whereon is a very good DWELLING-HOUSE, all convenient out houſes, a large garden well paled in, and the others well encloſed with poſts and rails. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe may know the terms by applying to me, on the premiſes.

JOHN MERIWETHER.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, in *Southampton*, on the 31ſt of *March* laſt, an apprentice boy named RAINES TUCKER, by trade a carpenter, about 17 years of age. All perſons are forewarned from harbouring or entertaining the ſaid apprentice; if it can be made appear they do, they may depend upon being proſecuted.

ROBERT JONES.

RUN away, on *Thurſday* the 19th day of *December* laſt, a Negro man named PHIL; he is a ſtrong likely young fellow. I purchaſed him of Mr. *Mann Page* laſt *November*, and I have been informed he is lurking about ſome of Mr. *Page's* plantations in *Glouceſter*, or a plantation of Mr. *Fox's*, where he has a wife. Whoever will apprehend the ſaid Negro, and convey him to *Bremo*, in *Henrico* county, ſhall receive 40s. reward, beſides what the law allows.

Tf BOWLER COCKE, Jun.

Juſt arrived in James *river from* London,

THE good SHIP *PITT*,

THOMAS MATHER maſter, in the intereſt of *Robert Cary*, Eſq; and Company; ſtaunch and free, like the great patriot whoſe name ſhe bears. LIBERTY of conſignment is allowed to all who incline to ſhip on board her: Their orders to Mr. *Waller* in *Williamſburg*, Mr. *Driver* in *Nanſemond*, Capt. *Henry Talman* in *New Kent*, or the Captain at *Bermuda Hundred*, where the ſhip is to load, will be punctually obſerved.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber in *Richmond*, on JAMES river, about the firſt of *May* laſt, a Negro fellow named QUAMONY, appears to be old, his head and beard almoſt white, ſpeaks very bad *Engliſh*, and is remarkably thin; he probably ſtays in the lower end of *Nanſemond* or *Norfolk* counties. Whoever brings, or ſends him to me, ſhall have 20s. reward.

4 ROBERT BROWN.

STRAYED or STOLEN from the ſubſcriber in *Warwick*, a dark bay horſe, branded on the near buttock very dull, not to be perceived at any diſtance, his fore and hind feet on the off ſide white as high as the footlock, a ſmall white ſpot on his off flank, a ſmall ſaddle ſpot with white hairs on each ſide of his back, a few white hairs on his rump, paces well when rode, trots when looſe, has very good courage, a hanging mane and ſwitch tail, ſhod before, and has been lately trimmed about the legs and ears. Whoever brings the ſaid horſe to me ſhall have 50s. reward; if ſtolen, 10l. on conviction of the thief.

4 WALTER BUCHANAN.

STRAYED or STOLEN from *Warwick*, the 27th of *May* laſt, a large likely bay horſe, with a ſmall ſtar in his face, a hanging mane and ſwitch tail, ſhod before, carries his head very high, paces remarkably well, and was in very good order. Whoever brings the ſaid horſe to me at *Warwick*, or gives information where I may get him again, ſhall have 50s. reward; and if ſtolen, for apprehending the thief, and bringing him to juſtice, 10l.

4 ROBERT DONALD.

STRAYED or STOLEN from my plantation in *Amelia* county, laſt *October*, a bright bay mare, about 13 hands and a half high, trots and gallops, and branded on the near buttock. Whoever brings the ſaid mare to me at Mrs. *Randolph's* near *Warwick* ferry, in *Henrico* county, ſhall have 3l. reward.

FRANCIS STERNE.

HANOVER, *March* 1, 1766.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, a Negro fellow named JOSEE, rather inclined to a yellow than black complexion, pitted with the ſmallpox, about 27 years of age, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, well made, has a ſour ill natured countenance, and pretends to be a *Spaniard*, by his account born at *Comana*; he carried clothes with him which were new laſt fall, alſo ſome other old clothes; he has been uſed to go by water, and will probably endeavour to get on board ſome veſſel, in order to eſcape. Whoever brings the ſaid fellow to me ſhall have 5l. if taken within the colony, and if out of it 10l.

Tf GEORGE THOMAS.

Five Pounds Reward.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, ſome time in *October* 1762, a Mulatto woman named VIOLET, about 30 years of age, of a middle ſtature, was born at *Princetown*, in the province of *New Jerſey*, very active, and pretends to be a free woman; ſhe has ſince been ſeen in company with one *James Lock*, ſomewhere upon the *Suſquehanna*, and by information was afterwards, in the year 1764, taken up, and committed to the gaol of *Frederick* town in *Maryland*, on ſuſpicion of her being run away, from whence ſhe is ſaid to have made her eſcape; ſhe then acknowledged that ſhe had belonged to the ſubſcriber, but being impoſed upon by being ſold a ſlave for life, run away, which is only an invention of her's, for ſhe was born a ſlave, and as ſuch was ſold to the ſubſcriber by the executors of her former maſter, one *Edward Bonnell*, late of *Freehold* in the county of *Monmouth*, and province aforeſaid, deceaſed, for the ſum of 90l. proc. money. She is now ſuppoſed to be ſomewhere in *Maryland*, *Virginia*, or *North Carolina*; ſhe is cunning and artful, and very probably may have changed her name, and will make her eſcape, if taken, unleſs great care is taken to ſecure her. Whoever ſhall take her up, and ſecure her in any gaol or priſon in *Maryland*, *Virginia*, *North Carolina*, or elſewhere, ſo that ſhe can be brought home, or ſold there, ſhall have the above reward paid to them by the Printer hereof, or ſubſcriber.

13 PHILIP KEARNY.

PERTH AMBOY, in *New Jerſey*, *March* 16, 1766.

To be SOLD,

THE following tracts of land, *viz.* One tract on which *Amherſt* court-houſe ſtanda, containing 7800 acres; another tract containing 3556 acres, lying on *Horſley's creek*; alſo one other tract containing 1150 acres, on *Harris's* creek, in the ſaid county: The land will be laid off in lots, as may ſuit the purchaſers. The terms may be known by applying to the ſubſcriber in *Caroline*, or to *Zachariah Taliaferro*, near *Amherſt* court-houſe, who will ſhow the land.

Tf LUNSFORD LOMAX.

To be SOLD,

At the MARLBOROUGH BREWERY,

STRONG BEER and PORTER at 18d. and ALE at 1s. the gallon, *Virginia* currency, in caſk, equal in goodneſs to any that can be imported from any part of the world, as nothing but the genuine beſt MALT and HOPS will be uſed, without any mixture or ſubſtitute whatſoever; which, if the many treaties of brewing publiſhed in *Great Britain* did not mention to be frequently uſed there, the experience of thoſe who have drunk thoſe liquors imported from thence would point out to be the caſe, from their pernicious effects.

The ſevere treatment we have lately received from our Mother Country, would, I ſhould think, be ſufficient to recommend my undertaking (though I ſhould not be able to come up to the *Engliſh* ſtandard, which I do not queſtion conſtantly to do) yet, as I am ſatisfied that the goodneſs of every commodity is its beſt recommendation, I principally rely upon that for my ſucceſs; and my own intereſt, having expended near 8000l. to bring my brewery to its preſent ſtate, is the beſt ſecurity I can give the publick to aſſure them of the beſt uſage, without which ſuch an undertaking cannot be ſupported with credit.

The caſks to be paid for at the rate of 4s. for barrels, 5s. for thoſe between 40 and 50 gallons, and a penny the gallon for all above 50 gallons; but if they are returned in good order, and ſweet, by having bee. well ſcalded as ſoon as emptied, the price of them ſhall be returned, or diſcounted.

Any perſon who ſends bottles and corks may have them carefully filled and corked with beer or porter at 6s. or with ale at 4s. the dozen. I expect, in a little time, to have a conſtant ſupply of bottles and corks; and if I meet the encouragement I hope for, propoſe ſetting up a glaſs-houſe for making bottles, and to provide proper veſſels to deliver to ſuch cuſtomers as favour me with their orders ſuch liquors as they direct, at the ſeveral landings they deſire, being determined to give all the ſatisfaction in the power of

Their moſt humble ſervant,

13 JOHN MERCER.

WILLIAMSBURG: Printed by *ALEX. PURDIE*, and *JOHN DIXON*, at the POST OFFICE; by whom Perſons may be ſupplied with this PAPER, at 12*ſ.* 6*d.* a Year. ADVERTISEMENTS of a moderate Length are inſerted for 3*ſ.* the firſt Week, and 2*ſ.* each Week after.